

CLAIMS

1. A displaceable card guide for use with a high packing ratio housing for pluggable modular components, comprising:

a base attached to a top wall of the housing;

a guide member having a guide surface that is in contact with a pluggable modular component when the pluggable modular component is received in the housing; and

two retractable arms, wherein a first end of each of the two retractable arms is attached to the base and a second opposite end of each of the retractable arms is attached to the guide, the two retractable arms permitting the guide member to displace toward the base so as to move the displaceable card guide from a extended position to a retracted position when the pluggable modular component is received in the housing.

2. A displaceable card guide as recited in claim 2, further comprising a lateral surface that defines a lateral wall of the position associated with a laterally adjacent displaceable card guide when the displaceable card guide is in the extended position.

3. A displaceable card guide as recited in claim 2, wherein the displaceable card guide, when in the extended position, is configured to substantially constrains lateral motion of a pluggable modular component as the pluggable modular component is inserted into the position associated with the laterally adjacent displaceable card guide.

4. A displaceable card guide as recited in claim 1, wherein the guide member has a sloped leading edge.

5. A displaceable card guide as recited in claim 4, wherein the sloped leading edge contacts the pluggable modular component as the pluggable modular component is received in the housing and translates motion of the pluggable modular component that is substantially parallel to a long axis of the guide member into a force that moves the displaceable card guide to the retracted position.

6. A high packing ratio housing having a plurality of displaceable card guides, comprising:

a chassis having an opening with a plurality of positions that each can receive a pluggable modular component;

a power supply; and

a plurality of displaceable card guides, each card guide corresponding with one of the positions and including:

a base attached to the inside roof of the chassis;

a guide member having a guide surface that is in contact with the pluggable modular component when the pluggable modular component is received in the housing; and

two retractable arms, wherein a first end of each of the two retractable arms is attached to the base and a second opposite end of each of the retractable arms is attached to the guide.

7. A high packing ratio housing as recited in claim 6, wherein the two retractable arms permit the guide member to displace toward the base so as to move the displaceable card guide from an extended position to a retracted position when the pluggable modular component is received in the housing.

8. A high packing ratio housing as recited in claim 7, wherein each of the plurality of displaceable card guides includes a lateral surface, wherein the lateral surface of the particular displaceable card guide defines a lateral wall of the position associated with a

laterally adjacent displaceable card guide when the particular displaceable card guide is in the extended position.

9. A high packing ratio housing as recited in claim 8, wherein the lateral surface constrains lateral motion of a pluggable modular component that is received by the position associated with the laterally adjacent displaceable card guide when the particular displaceable card guide is in the extended position.

10. A high packing ratio housing as recited in claim 6, wherein the plurality of displaceable card guides comprises eleven displaceable card guides.